Cashewnut Factories in the State.

125. *Mr. M. N. Paramesvaran Pillai: Will the Government be pleased to state;

(*a*) how many factories there are in the State where kernels of cashewnuts are extracted and prepared for export

(*b*) what is the process now adopted in these factories for the extraction of the kernels, whether it is with the aid of machinery or purely by manual labour;

(*c*) how many persons are employed in each factory and of them how many are males and how many females;

(*d*) how many of these employees are below sixteen and how many above that age;

(*e*) whether at any time after the starting of these factories, the physical condition of these employees has been examined by the Director of Public Health or the Durbar Physician or by any other competent medical officer; if so, when and by whom and with what result;

(*f*) whether it is a fact that the skin of all persons employed in these factories for the extraction of kernels is ulcerated on account of the contact with the acid substance or the "black liquor" found in cashewnuts;

(*g*) if the answer to part (*f*) is in the affiirmative, what preventive or precautionary measures have been taken to protect the health of those employees; and

(*h*) what is the average wage given to a male, a female and a child employed in such factories?

Rao Bahadur Dr. N. Kunjan Pillai: (*a*) 23.

(*b*) By manual labour.

(*c*) and (*d*) A statement is placed on the table.

(*e*) Information not available.

(*f*) The skin of all persons employed in the factories is not generally ulcerated, but the hands of those who extract kernel from the nuts are singed and discoloured.

(*g*) No preventive or precautionary measures have been taken except that cocoanut oil is being applied to remove the discolouration on the skin.

(*h*) The average wage given to a male is annas (6) six, to a female annas (3) three, and to a child annas (2) two, per day.

Mr. M. N. Paramesvaran Pillai: Have the Government made any provision for the medical examination of the employees in these factories?

Rao Bahadur Dr. N. Kunjan Pillai: No, Sir.

**Vide* Appendix IV Page 583

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Mr. M. N. Paramesvaran Pillai: Are the provisions of Chapter III of the Factories Regulation of 1089 being strictly enforced ?

Rao Bahadur Dr. N. Kunjan Pillai: Yes, as far as possible.

Mr. M. N. Paramesvaran Pillai: By whom ? Have the Government appointed Factories Inspectors ?

Rao Bahadur Dr. N. Kunjan Pillai: The District Magistrates are ex-officio Factory Inspectors.

Mr. M. N. Paramesvaran Pillai: Am I to take it that the District Magistrates are enforcing these rules ?

Rao Bahadur Dr. N. Kunjan Pillai: They are supposed to do it.

Mr. M. N. Paramesvaran Pillai: May I ask whether the process of extracting cashewnuts, from the shell, is not injurious to the health of the labourers who do it ?

Rao Bahadur Dr. N. Kunjan Pillai: It is given in the answer, Sir. Their skin gets discoloured.

President: And cocoanut oil is applied as a remedy.

Mr. M. N. Paramesvaran Pillai: May I know whether by applying cocoanut oil, the injuries can be removed ?

Rao Bahadur Dr. N. Kunjan Pillai: That seems to be their experience.

Mr. M. N. Paramesvaran Pillai: May I ask whether the Public Health Director or any of the medical officers of Government, ever visited these factories and examined these employees ; and if so, what is the report of such officers ?

Rao Bahadur Dr. N. Kunjan Pillai: I claim notice.

Amount paid outside the State from the State Revenues as pensions and salaries.

126. ***Mr. M. N. Paramesvaran Pillai:** Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) how much money is paid out of Travancore revenues outside the State as pensions and salaries ; and

(*c*) whether any income-tax is levied on them ; and, if not, why ?

Rao Bahadur Dr. N. Kunjan Pillai:

(*a*) Pensions—B. Rs. 16,523-15-2. } per year.
Salaries—S. Rs. 12,215-22-0. }

(*b*) The answer is in the affirmative except in the case of pensions paid in the United Kingdom which are exempt from payment of tax under G. O. R. O. C. No. 655/24/Revenue, dated 26th April 1924.

Mr. M. N. Paramesvaran Pillai: May I know whether the overseas allowance of these officers is included in their salaries, for purposes of income-tax ?

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

Appendix IV.

Vide Answer to Question No 125.

Persons employed in cashewnut factories and their age.

Serial No.	Name of Factory.	No. of employees.			
		Male.	Female.	Below 16 years	Above 16 years.
1	Shunmugavilasom Cashewnut Factory	50	200	80	170
2	K. P. K. V. Cashewnut Factory	135	600	400	335
3	M. P. Govindan and Brothers	100	330	195	235
4	Xavier Cashewnut Factory	250	300	350	200
5	A. Thangalkunju Musaliar and Sons	250	1250	520	980
6	P. K. Raman and K. K. Padmanabhan & Co.	25	125	20	130
7	Chidambara Thanu Pillai Subramonia Pillai & Co	50	490	220	320
8	Devi and Co., Punthalathazham	25	225	60	190
9	The Kerala produce, Vadakevila	30	245	65	210
10	Devalakshmi Vilasom, Vadakevila	45	405	110	340
11	E. C. G. Company, Ayathil	45	455	120	380
12	Do. Karpooramcherry	20	255	50	225
13	Cashewnut Factory, Meenad	20	180	80	120
14	Do. Elampalloor	200	1000	200	1000
15	Do. Do.	50	450	100	400
16	M. P. G. and Brothers, Karikode	50	600	200	450
17	P. K. P. & Co.	50	900	700	250
18	W. T. Anderson & Co.	60	1400	1260	200
19	S. N. & Company	[illegible]	1200	1030	200
20	Cashewnut Factory, Paravur	70	330	100	300
21	Ezhucone Cashewnut Factory	90	450	150	390
22	Kshemapradayini Factory	200	225	175	250
23	Mykindico Company	125	110	110	125

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly